IN THE CLAIMS:

1-27. (Cancelled)

28. (new)   A method for conversion of an input document data stream that corresponds to one of many possible input data formats into an output document data stream that corresponds to one of many possible input data formats, comprising the steps of:

converting the input document data stream into an internal data format;

adding as needed document formatting information that establishes a representation of the data in the output format to the data in the internal data format; and

converting the data into the output data format.

29. (new)   A method according to claim 28 wherein for conversion of the input document data stream into the output document data stream that corresponds to one of many possible input data formats the input document data stream is converted into an internal data format, document formatting information that establishes how a content of the data stream in the internal data format is represented in the output data format is added as needed, controlled by a document template, to the data in the internal data format, and the data are output in the output data format.

30. (new)   A method according to claim 28 wherein the input document data stream is converted into an internal data format with formatted data that contain format specifications and raw data that contain no format specifications for format-adapted and speed-optimized processing of the input document data stream.

31. (new)   A method according to claim 30 wherein formatting data are added to the raw data by means of predetermined rules and an output data stream that has a predetermined format is formed from the data of the internal data format.

32. (new)   A method according to claim 29 wherein the document template is formed using a design data set and the conversion into the internal data format occurs via rules that use the design data set.

33. (new)   A method according to claim 29 wherein the document template is generated using free programmed static or dynamic elements.

34. (new)   A method according to claim 28 wherein types are associated per field with a design data set in a first preparatory design phase, whereby formatting instructions are associated with a first type group and no formatting is associated with a second type group, and whereby in a second, productive processing phase all data sets of the input document data stream are examined by type, and data that are associated with the first type group are additionally formatted and data that are associated with the second type group receive no additional formatting.

35. (new)   A method according to claim 28 wherein a freely definable rule file is formed in a design phase, mapping rules of which rule file are automatically derived or derived such that they are freely editable from the design set, from the input document data, or from other rules from auxiliary files.

36. (new)   A method according to claim 33 wherein assembly of formatting rules occurs during a design time.

37. (new)   A method according to claim 28 wherein formatted data are converted into a device-specific output data format.

38. (new)   A method according to claim 28 wherein a normalized data stream or a formatted data stream are device-specifically optimized in the processing.

39. (new)   A method according to claim 28 wherein the input data format, the output data format, or the document formatting information to be added are selectable.

40. (new)   A method according to claim 28 wherein pre-formatted data are processed in a first formatting stage and raw data are processed in a second processing state.

41. (new)   A method according to claim 40 wherein the raw data are used multiple times in components in the second processing stage.

42. (new)   A method according to claim 41 wherein a component comprises graphical elements or indexing information.

43. (new)   A method according to claim 28 wherein the document formatting information comprises paper reproduction information.

44. (new)   A method according to claim 28 wherein the document formatting information comprises print pre- or post-processing information.

45. (new)   A method according to claim 28 wherein the input data stream comprises an SAP/RDI data stream, a line data data stream, or a metacode data stream.

46. (new)   A method according to claim 28 wherein the output document data stream comprises an Advanced Function Presentation data stream in which a first group of formatting information is provided via a pagedef file and a second group of formatting information is contained in the input document data stream or in a normalized raw data stream.

47. (new)   A method according to claim 28 wherein activation signals for a display medium or a computer comprising a display medium are formed from a normalized output document data stream.

48. (new)   A method according to claim 28 wherein the output document data stream is represented on a display medium, and can be edited such that effected changes change a document template and thus retroact on an unrastered output document data stream.

49. (new)   A method according to claim 28 wherein the output document data stream is output to an e-mail system, a fax device, or an Internet server.

50. (new)   A system for conversion of an input document data stream corresponds to one of many possible input data formats into an output document data stream that corresponds to one of many possible input data formats, comprising:

a first converter which converts the input document data stream into an internal data format;

document formatting information that establishes a representation of the data in the output format to the data in the internal data format; and

a second converter which converts the data into the output data format.

51. (new)   A system of claim 50 comprising a data processing system.

52. (new)   A system of claim 50 comprising a data processing printing system.

53. (new)   A computer program product for conversion of an input document data stream that corresponds to one of many possible input data formats into an output document data stream that corresponds to one of many possible input data formats, said computer program product

converting the input document data stream into an internal data format;

adding as needed document formatting information that establishes a representation of the data in the output format to the data in the internal data format; and

converting the data into the output data format.